II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.   (Original) A system for dynamically allocating one or
more postal security devices (PSD's), comprising:

an indicia pool utilizing PSD's for generating indicia;

a download pool for refreshing PSD funds; and

a means for allocating the one or more PSD's among the
indicia pool and download pool according to indicia
generating requirements and funding amounts within the
one or more PSD's.

2.   (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising an
indicia manager that initiates queues for generating indicia
and requests allocation of PSD's to the indicia pool to
service the indicia queues.

3.   (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising a worker
pool for initializing and holding PSD's for allocation.

4.   (New) The system of claim 4, wherein the worker pool
operates to sets a port number and personal identification
number for a particular PSD.

5.   (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising a
maintenance pool for performing diagnostics on a PSD that
cannot perform one or more functions.

6.   (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the diagnostics
include corrective action for correcting a failure.

7.   (New) The system of claim 6, wherein the corrective
action includes reloading an operating system and an

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application program of the PSD that cannot perform one or more functions.

8.   (New) A method of dynamically allocating one or more postal security devices (PSD's), comprising:

creating an indicia pool utilizing PSD's for generating indicia;

creating a download pool for refreshing PSD funds; and

allocating the one or more PSD's among the indicia pool and download pool according to indicia generating requirements and funding amounts within the one or more PSD's.

9.   (New)   The   method   of   claim   8,   further   comprising initiating queues for generating indicia and requesting allocation of PSD's to the indicia pool to service the indicia queues.

10.   (New) The method of claim 9, further comprising creating a   worker   pool   for   initializing   and   holding   PSD's   for allocation.

11.   (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising setting a port number and personal identification number for a PSD in the worker pool.

12.   (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising creating a maintenance pool for performing diagnostics on a PSD that cannot perform one or more functions.

13.   (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the diagnostics include corrective action for correcting a failure.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising reloading an operating system and an application program of the PSD that cannot perform one or more functions.